

STATE OF NEW YORK
LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY

BUFFALO, NY, JANUARY 20, 2022

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*Congratulating and Honoring
Judge Shirley Troutman
On her Appointment as Associate Judge of the
New York State Court of Appeals*

WHEREAS, *Judge Shirley Troutman*, a City of Buffalo resident and devoted mother of two, is a trailblazer in New York's legal and judicial community; and

WHEREAS, Judge Troutman is the daughter of parents who grew up in the segregated South and moved their family North for a better life; and

WHEREAS, Judge Shirley Troutman is a graduate of Bennett Park School No. 32; and

WHEREAS, Shirley went on to study Business Administration at the University at Buffalo, earned her bachelor's from the University at Buffalo and also earned her Juris Doctorate degree from Albany Law School of Union University; and

WHEREAS, prior to taking the bench, Troutman served 8 years as a prosecutor at all levels of government, in 1986 she started her career as an Assistant District Attorney for the Erie County District Attorney's Office, in 1989 she moved to the New York State Department of Law as Assistant Attorney General where she represented the State of New York in Federal and State Courts as a trial attorney, and in 1992 she joined the United States Department of Justice as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Western District of New York; and

WHEREAS, Shirley became Judge Troutman following her election to the Buffalo City Court bench in November of 1994, she was elected to a full ten-year term as a Buffalo City Court Judge; and

WHEREAS, after 15 years of service to the City of Buffalo, Judge Troutman was named an Acting Supreme Court Justice and was later elected to the State Supreme Court's Eighth Judicial District in 2009; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, Judge Troutman received a well-deserved opportunity to serve on the New York State Supreme Court Appellate Division, Fourth Department; and

WHEREAS, Judge Troutman is the epitome of the phrase “lift as we climb,” as she has served as an exemplary mentor in her role as co-chair of the Franklin Williams Commission and President of the National Association of Women Judges, New York Chapter, where she works to create a pipeline and encourage underrepresented individuals to pursue legal careers and to answer any qualms young people may have in pursuing for those position; and

WHEREAS, Judge Troutman has worked hand-in-hand with numerous community agencies including educational, mentoring and professional groups; and

WHEREAS, historically, Judge Troutman is the first woman from Western New York and just the second Black woman to sit on the state’s highest court in New York State; and

WHEREAS, Shirley is a recipient of the Black Achiever's Award and the Forty Under 40 award; and

WHEREAS, outside the courthouse, Judge Troutman enjoys reading historical books, walking and spending time with her family; and

WHEREAS, this Honorable Body desires to acknowledge and recognize individuals such as newly appointed New York State Court of Appeals Associate Judge, *Shirley Troutman*, an extraordinary woman who devotes her time to public service and applauds her for accomplishing numerous leadership roles, as well as her well-deserved accolades and achievements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, it is with great honor that this this Legislative Body hereby applauds and recognizes *Judge Shirley Troutman* for her exceptional accomplishments through her career in the City of Buffalo and throughout Erie County; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature congratulates *Shirley Troutman* on her newly elected appointment on becoming Associate Judge on the New York State Court of Appeals and wishes her well in her continued service in representing New York State.

Hon. April N.M. Baskin
Erie County Legislator, 2nd District

Hon. Howard J. Johnson Jr.
Erie County Legislator, 1st District